

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JUNE 01, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 10:00am. Council members in attendance: West, Ladwig, Miller, Baker, Rotwein.
- City Staff in attendance: City Manager Dan Berman, City Clerk Gabriel Adams.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION – *No closed session.*

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – *Nothing to report.*

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion (Ladwig/West) to approve the agenda as written. Passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *No minutes to approve.*

VII. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS – *No reports given.*

VIII. STAFF REPORTS – *Deferred to discussion agenda.*

IX. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

Dorothy Cox – Trinidad

Asked for status report on Ocean Avenue right-of-way project. Would like a copy of the document Victoria Sackville-Rosen claimed to have been given by the City Manager to allow her hedge to stay during ASBS swale construction. I wasn't aware that the residents had an option to have the swales in their front yards.

Victoria Sackville-Rosen – Trinidad

I would appreciate allowing the dust to settle on Ocean Avenue with regards to the recent property sale at 407 Ocean before making any dramatic changes to the street.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Proclamation in recognition of former Trinidad Councilmember, Mayor and Resident Chi-Wei Lin.
Mayor Miller announced Lin's passing, and read aloud a list of accomplishments in recognition of his many years of service and contributions to the City of Trinidad. The Council observed a moment of silence in his honor.

XI. DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA:

1. Discussion/Presentation of the 2018 Budget
City Manager Berman explained that his goal is to have the budget approved at the June 28 regular meeting, and presented a brief overview of the city's current budget status, cash reserves, and possible project options for the upcoming year.

Various highlights/proposals for the budget included:

- Increase records clerk hours to full time.
- Increase rate of pay for TPW/Water Department Staff members DeSmet and Rosenblatt.
- 2% Salary Increase for all other employees.
- Increase grant administrator time allocated to OWTS program.
- Increase Building Inspector time allocated to STR Ordinance Inspections and Enforcement

Council comments included:

Baker: Are we using what we have efficiently? I think we should know this before hiring more help.

Rotwein: Presented a list of needs priorities, questions, concerns:

- We need a capital improvement plan.
- Cost projections for Septic Program

- Not in favor of increasing Staff time. We need to improve efficiency and reward long-standing employees that have been topped out for years.
- Prioritize ADA compliance issues. Do we have a spending plan?
- We way overspent the Engineer's budget. How can we prevent this in the future?
- Continuing education/training for current staff. I support investing in staff to improve performance.
- For any future expenditure proposed, there must be a spending plan to map out where it will come from in the budget.

Miller: Highlight short vs. long-term expenses (bulge expenses). Solar on Town Hall roof. Exercise equipment or fitness facility somewhere in Trinidad.

Public comment included:

Dorothy Cox – Trinidad

I had a life-long career in education, and had to fight for every penny. With all the issues Trinidad is facing, staff should not be getting raises this year.

Kathleen Lake – Trinidad

I appreciate Rotwein's request for more details. We need a fee analysis. No raises should be given. The \$400,000 grant match is not a good use of city funds. The General Plan update should be a priority.

Further discussion ensued about various budget components, but no decisions were made.

Next meeting will be held on June 28th, 2017, at 6:00pm.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 12:10pm.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Gabriel Adams
City Clerk

Dwight Miller
Mayor